

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 11982 261307Z

70

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 IO-10 SAJ-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 SAM-01

TRSE-00 EB-07 EUR-12 /096 W
----- 039262

R 261231Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8174

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 11982

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, SY, LE, XF

SUBJECT: GUMHURIYYA ARTICLE ATTACKS SYRIAN BA'ATH MEDDLING IN PLO
AFFAIRS

REF: CAIRO 10739

1. GUMHURIYYA NOVEMBER 26 BANNER-HEADLINES EXCLUSIVE STORY, ATTRIBUTED TO "OFFICIAL ARAB SOURCES IN CAIRO AND A NUMBER OF OTHER ARAB CAPITALS," DETAILING SYRIAN BA'ATH PLOT TO OUST PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ARAFAT AND REPLACE HIM WITH SA'IQA CHIEF AND HEAD OF PLO MILITARY COMMITTEE ZUHAYR MUHSIN. ARTICLE, WHICH SHORT ON DETAILS CONCERNING HOW SYRIA ATTEMPTING TO EXECUTE THIS COUP WITHIN PLO, COMMENTS DARKLY THAT PLOT CONSTITUTES BLATANT INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF LEBANON (BY IMPLICATION, BECAUSE ARAFAT ATTEMPTED TO KEEP PLO ALOOF FROM SECTARIAN FIGHTING, BUT SYRIAN-BACKED SA'IQA WANTS PLO TO TAKE MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 11982 261307Z

SUPPORT OF MUSLIM LEFTISTS) AND RUNS COUNTER TO OFTEN REPEATED EGYPT-

IAN POSITION THAT LEBANESE SHOULD BE LEFT TO SETTLE THEIR AFFAIRS
AMONG THEMSELVES.

2. COMMENT: ARTICLES OF THIS TYPE INVARIABLY RESULT OF
EXCLUSIVE BRIEFINGS, IN THIS CASE OF GUMHURIYYA "POLITICAL
EDITOR" (PROBABLY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MUHSIN MUHAMMAD), BY
SENIOR GOE OFFICIAL OR EVEN BY PRESIDENT SADAT HIMSELF. IN
HAYKAL DAYS AT AHRAH, THIS TYPE OF EXCLUSIVE MONOPOLIZED BY
AHRAH, BUT EXCLUSIVES NOW PARCELLED OUT ON ROTATIONAL BASIS AMONG
THREE DAILIES. ATTACK ON SYRIAN BA'ATH MEDDLING IN PLO AFFAIRS,
FIRST SPECIFIC CHARGE AGAINST SYRIANS SINCE SADAT'S RETURN
FROM US (OTHER THAN MORE GENERALIZED SNIPING AGAINST BA'ATH
EFFORTS TO HINDER ME PEACE NEGOTIATING PROCESS), ESCALATES
EGYPTIAN PRESS ATTACKS AGAINST SYRIANS. DURING ABC INTERVIEW
WITH SADAT PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM US (REFTEL), SADAT MADE
SAME CHARGE AGAINST SYRIANS AS GUMHURIYYA ARTICLE ON STRICTLY
OFF-THE-RECORD BASIS. GOE APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT TIME HAS
COME TO STOP PULLING PUNCHES ON THIS ISSUE.
EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, LIBERATION FRONTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO11982
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750412-0896
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975118/aaaaagvo.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CAIRO 10739
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 JUL 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <02 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUMHURIYYA ARTICLE ATTACKS SYRIAN BA'ATH MEDDLING IN PLO AFFAIRS
TAGS: PFOR, EG, SY, LE, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006